

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

APRIL 13, 2004

Water quality has become an increasing issue of concern throughout the County of Los Angeles. Due to the unique and rural character of the North Santa Monica Bay Watersheds (NSMBW), I asked the Department of Public Works to prepare a White Paper on water quality regulatory issues in that area. The NSMBW is comprised of a portion of the County of Ventura and the northwest portion of the County of Los Angeles, and includes the watersheds of Malibu Creek, Topanga Creek, and numerous other rural watersheds that drain to Santa Monica Bay.

The primary regulations of concern for this area, similar to the rest of the County of Los Angeles, are the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Storm Water Permit, Total Maximum Daily Loads, and Assembly Bill 885 (AB 885). AB 885 imposes requirements related to onsite wastewater treatment systems. There are numerous and sometimes disparate public and non-profit organizations in the NSMBW area that focus on various issues related to these regulations. However, the rural character of the area does not allow for many currently available or traditional solutions to water quality issues.

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Therefore, Public Works recommended that a NSMBW Task Force, comprised of the stakeholders in the watersheds, be established to work collaboratively in developing a Regional Watersheds Implementation Plan. This plan will identify actions, plans, and projects needed to comply with the regulations in a cost-effective and collaborative manner. It can also serve as a model for water quality compliance throughout the County.

My office and County staff have been meeting with the other governmental agencies in the area responsible for complying with these regulations to garner their support and participation. We also asked these agencies to serve on the Executive Committee of the Task Force, as well as any necessary subcommittees. To date, all these entities (the Cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Malibu, and Westlake Village in the County of Los Angeles, and the County of Ventura, and the Ventura County Watershed Protection District) have unanimously passed resolutions authorizing their participation.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board take the following actions:

- Adopt the Resolution authorizing the County of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD), in conjunction with the County of Ventura, the County of Ventura Watershed Protection District, and the Cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Malibu, Westlake Village, and Thousand Oaks to participate in the NSMBW Task Force to develop the Regional Watersheds Implementation Plan.
- Instruct the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to represent the LACFCD and chair the NSMBW Task Force Executive Committee.

- Appoint my office, or my designee, to also serve on the Executive Committee.
- Instruct all other County Departments, such as Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures, Beaches and Harbors, Chief Administrative Office, Fire, Health Services, Parks and Recreation, Regional Planning, and Sheriff, to participate in the appropriate subcommittees as stakeholders on related water quality issues.
- Instruct the Director of Public Works to invite all other interested stakeholders, including public agencies, regulators, environmental groups, and other citizen organizations to participate in the Plan preparation through subcommittees.

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A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY
FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING
THE COUNTY AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NORTH SANTA MONICA BAY
WATERSHEDS TASK FORCE AND AUTHORIZING VARIOUS RELATED ACTIONS
TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT OF A
REGIONAL WATERSHEDS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the North Santa Monica Bay Watersheds (NSMBW) is comprised of the Malibu Creek, Topanga Creek, and other rural Santa Monica Mountains Watersheds, and includes five cities (Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Malibu, Westlake Village, and a portion of Thousand Oaks) and unincorporated areas in the Counties of Ventura and Los Angeles, as well as large areas of public parkland, including Malibu and Topanga State Parks, several Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy parks (Ahmanson being the newest), National Parks Service lands, and Mountains Restoration Trust preserves; and

WHEREAS, this region, which is mostly characterized by its rural environment, natural beauty, wildlands, and recreational opportunities, also supports urban, residential and business communities; and these diverse communities are served by roads, highways, water utilities, sewage and trash disposal, and flood control facilities, which generate or convey pollutants that impact natural waterways and the Santa Monica Bay; and

WHEREAS, these pollutants in storm drains, creeks, and urban runoff cross jurisdictional boundaries before reaching the North Santa Monica Bay; and

WHEREAS, the State and Federal governments have passed various regulatory requirements, including the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and Assembly Bill 885 (AB 885), which require that local government take action to improve water quality; and

WHEREAS, in its role as the principal permittee of the County of Los Angeles Municipal NPDES Permit, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works has been working with the permittee cities and several watershed organizations, including the Malibu Creek Watershed Advisory Council and the Topanga Watershed Committee, for over a decade to support and help coordinate Best Management Practices in support of clean water goals throughout the NSMBW region; and

WHEREAS, all jurisdictions are now facing growing pressure to meet the full range of these regulatory requirements, and thereby avoid State and Federal penalties, and it is essential that all parties with a stake in water quality be brought together to develop a comprehensive plan that will meet these requirements in a cost-effective manner that is sensitive to the respective community; and

WHEREAS, in order to develop and implement such a plan, the County proposes to form the NSMBW Task Force with the committee structure shown in Attachment I; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Task Force will be accomplished in three phases: First, develop a Regional Watersheds Implementation Plan (RWIP) with stakeholders who have a vested interest in the environmental health and economic viability of the region; second, develop organizational and/or funding mechanisms that may be necessary to implement the plan; and, third, implement the RWIP; and

WHEREAS, all interested stakeholders of the watersheds, including public agencies, regulators, residents, environmental groups, and other citizen organizations will have input through the Task Force subcommittees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors authorizes the County and Los Angeles County Flood Control District to participate in the NSMBW Task Force and appoints Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, or his designee, and the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to serve on the Executive Committee of the NSMBW Task Force to provide guidance, support, and decision-making authority in the development and approval of a proposed RWIP to comply with the NPDES Permit, TMDLs, and AB 885 regulatory requirements;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs the Director of Public Works, or his designee(s), to actively lead and provide in-kind services on behalf of the County and Flood Control District to facilitate Subcommittees of the NSMBW Task Force, which will develop and recommend a RWIP to comply with the NPDES Permit, TMDLs, and AB 885 regulatory requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors instructs all other applicable County Departments, such as Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures, Beaches and Harbors, Chief Administrative Office, Fire, Health Services, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Regional Planning, and Sheriff, to participate in the appropriate subcommittees as stakeholders in related water quality issues.

The foregoing Resolution was on the ____ day of _____, 2004, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS
Executive Officer-Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors of the
County of Los Angeles

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LLOYD W. PELLMAN
County Counsel

By _____
Deputy

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NORTH SANTA MONICA BAY WATERSHEDS TASK FORCE **Proposed Committee Structure**



Subcommittees

Advisory Develop Regional Watersheds Implementation Plan (RWIP)	Monitoring Technical Advisory Committee for water quality monitoring.	Implementation Implement RWIP in accordance with NPDES, AB 885, and individual TMDL timelines and as regulations change or progress. Develop specific plans for each program and BMP.	Funding Determine funding sources and mechanisms to leverage funding among agencies.
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Executive Committee members will consist of local governmental agencies with a vested interest in the North Santa Monica Bay Watersheds and compliance responsibilities for the NPDES Permit and TMDLs. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works will represent the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. All other interested stakeholders of the watersheds, including nonmunicipality regulated agencies, regulators, environmental groups, and special interest groups will have input through subcommittees.

*Representatives on the Executive Committee should be elected officials. Elected officials can designate a proxy.